GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2308
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
USE OF BIO-FERTILIZER
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Project on Development of Bio-Fertilizers has not been moving at the required pace during the Ninth Plan Period;

(b) if so, the measures taken to make the project a success;

(c) the details of bio-fertilizer units which were to be set up during the Ninth Plan; and

(d) the reasons for the shortfall in achieving the target?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (d): The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Govt. of India isimplementing a continuing Central Sector Scheme on Development and Use ofBiofertilizers during the Ninth Plan.With a view to give further impetus to extension, training and publicity programmes for increasing the awareness among extension workers and farmers for effective use of biofertilizers, the training programmes and demonstration trials were further increased during 9th plan. Under this Scheme, grant- in-aid is being extended for setting up/strengthening of biofertilizers production units of 150/75 tonnes capacity per annum by Agro Industries/Cooperatives/Public Sector Undertakings of Fertilizers, NGOs and private entrepreneurs.

The Scheme provides for creating production capacity of 4500 tonnes ofbiofertilizers during the Plan. Accordingly this targeted biofertilizers production capacity of 4500 tonnes have been sanctioned through 37 units in different States. Thus 100 per cent targets are achieved during 9th Plan for setting up of biofertilizer production units.